(i) Facilitation of the recruitment of manpower between the two countries;

(ii) Prohibition on changing the terms and conditions of the contract of employment to the detriment of the workers;

(iii) Procedure for authentication of the employment contract;

(iv) Unequivocal responsiblity on the employer regarding arranging work permit for the worker;

(v) Protection and welfare of the workers not covered under the labour law of the State of Kuwait;

(vi) Constitution of a Joint Working Group.

The salient features of the Additional Protocol signed in November, 2007 with the State of Qatar are the following:

(i) It enlarges the mandate of the Joint Committee and provides for a wide range of issues that can be reviewed by the Joint Committee for promotion of emigration from India to Qatar and protection/welfare of Indian workers;

(ii) It stipulates that the Joint Committee would meet twice a year alternately;

(iii) It stipulates that if the State of Qatar decides to repatriate Indian workers prematurely before the expiry of their contracted period, the Government of Qatar will ensure that before their repatriation full wages and other entitlements accruing to them under the contract of employment and the labour laws of the State of Qatar are paid to them for the entire un-availed period of the contract;

(iv) There is specific provision for the welfare of Indian workers in the unorganized sector;

(v) It provides for appropriate steps to be taken to curb practices detrimental to the welfare of the Indian workers working in or seeking work in the State of Qatar.

MoUs are being finalized with Malaysia and Oman. MoUs are also being pursued with Bahrain and Yemen. Further, to supplement the Agreement the Government of India had signed with the Government of Jordan in 1988, it is proposed to sign and Additional Protocol to the 1988 Agreement with Jordan addressing current issues.

Inclusion of Shimla-Chirgaon and Rampur-Rohru roads into the category of National Highways

*318. SHRI BASHISTHA NARAIN SINGH: Will the Minister of SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has received a representation forwarded by Prime Minister's Office in the month of August, 2007 regarding inclusion of Shimla-Chirgaon and Rampur-Rohru roads into National Highways;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) whether Government would include these roads during the Eleventh Five year Plan

on priority basis as thousands of people may be benefited therefrom, including unemployed youth, farmers and tourists?

THE MINISTER OF SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI T.R. BAALU): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) There is no proposal to declare Shimla-Chirgaon and Rampur-Rohru roads as National Highways during the Elventh Five Year Plan Period.

Financical assistance for Andhra Pradesh Projects

*319. SHRI NANDI YELLAIAH: Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the number and details of the projects for which the State Government of Andhra Pradesh has requested his Ministry to provide financial assistance under Externally Aided Projects (EAPs);

(b) the number of EAPs of the State for which financial assistance has been released by the Central Government alongwith those for which financial assistance is still awaited, indicating the amount released for each of the sanctioned project; and

(c) by when Central financial asssitance is likely to be provided to the remaining projects?

THE MINISTER OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI S. JAIPAL REDDY): (a) to (c) In so far as Ministry of Urban Development is concerned, the details of projects of Andhra Pradesh in the pipeline for external assistance are as under:

Sl. No.	Name of Project	Funding Agency	Expected Loan Amount
1.	Andhra Pradesh Urban Reform & Municipal Services Projet	World Bank	$ 233 million
2.	Water Supply and Sewerage sector for twin cities of Hyderabad and Secunderabad and surrounding municipalities	Japan Bank of International Cooperation (JBIC)	Rs. 2221 crore
3.	Outer Ring Road Project, Hyderabad	-do-	Rs. 2700 crore